

CALIFORNIA

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LABOR CLAPTON

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No. 2

A.F.L. Bans Local Strikes for Any Cause

The American Federation of Labor, through its executive council, served notice on all of its affiliated unions that there must be no strikes or stoppages of work for any reason in the critical months ahead when the Allied Nations will make their supreme drive for victory in the war.

President William Green, announcing the action of the executive council, declared that "the need for sustained and uninterrupted production of vital war materials has now reached the highest point."

No Justification Whatsoever

"No matter what the character of the grievance may be," Green declared, "no matter how serious or aggravating the circumstances of the dispute, there can be no justification whatsoever for local strikes. We are on the eve of tremendous developments in this world war. Military movements impend that may involve millions of American soldiers and sailors—our own boys. They will meet the test in a courageous way. The soldiers of production must meet their responsibilities in the same courageous way."

Soldiers' and Workers' Duties

"Our soldiers, facing the enemy, will fight. Our workers must work. Local strikes or interruptions of production may imperil the lives of thousands of our boys. They cannot be excused or justified or condoned."

Further actions taken by the A.F.L. executive council at its mid-winter meeting, held in Miami, and not heretofore reported upon, were:

Broaden Publicity Program

Directed the officers of the Federation to embark upon a broad and comprehensive public relations program during the coming year. The council adopted a report calling for an increase in the A.F.L.'s public relations staff and a more extensive use of radio to

acquaint the American people with the news and views of organized labor.

Office Workers' International

President Green and Secretary-Treasurer Meany were instructed to confer with the officials of the office workers' organization, now made up of federal labor unions associated together in an international council, and to issue an international charter to them as soon as technical questions of jurisdiction are straightened out.

Subscription to War Loan

New War Bond subscriptions aggregating \$4,165,000 were pledged in the Fourth War Loan drive by unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor at a dinner given by the executive council. "This is just the start," President William Green said, in making the announcement. "The total pledges represent only purchases by ten international unions, the American Federation of Labor itself, and two of its Departments." He estimated that additional subscriptions by other A.F.L. international unions and their individual members would swell the total to more than \$200,000,000.

Food for European Children

The Council called upon the Allied Nations to permit the sending of food to starving children of friendly nations of Europe now occupied by the Nazis. It was stated that experience in Greece and France has shown the children can be saved without aiding the enemy. "We send food through the blockade for prisoners of war and for British and American civilian internees in German-held territory," the council pointed out, "yet we deny the Norwegian, Polish, Dutch and Belgian officer fighting with the Allied forces the right to use his own money with

which to purchase and send food to his starving wife and children at home. This is not in accord with Anglo-American justice and fair play. It is just as right to send food through the blockade to the families of our Allies as to our own, and we respectfully urge upon our Government immediate action to that end."

Social Security Legislation

Congress was criticized for its failure to date to act favorably on the Wagner-Murray-Dingel proposed amendments to the Social Security Act. Demanding early hearings on this post-war measure, the executive council made public a comprehensive report from its social committee summing up the issue. The committee responsible measure be taken to the minds and consciences of senators and congressmen their responsibility for making it possible for those who work for wages to have social insurance that will protect them from relief and dependency."

Vengeance Against Japs

In reference to the revelations made of Japanese atrocities against American war prisoners, during the meeting of the executive council President Green stated:

"The savage cruelty which the Japanese practiced upon our heroic soldiers of Bataan and Corregidor brings home to us more clearly than ever the true nature of the enemy we are fighting. Members of the American Federation of Labor will do their part in seeing that these tortures are fully avenged. There will be no let-up in our efforts until these bestial murderers are utterly crushed."

Plans for intensifying the A.F.L.'s activities in the
(Continued on Page Two)

REGISTER!—Your Vote Is Needed—REGISTER!

[It is of vital importance that every member of union labor be registered as a voter this year. At the immediate time the subject is vital in California, due to the fact that, following recent change in the law, only ONE primary election will be held in this State—on May 16—thus requiring that eligible voters be REGISTERED by April 6. Unions, therefore, are required to revise any contemplated plans for bringing about registration of their membership, in order to comply with the new dates. From the office of Registrar of Voters Cameron King is furnished the following information pertaining to registration. Every union official and member should read it. Make sure that you are REGISTERED!]

The consolidated presidential primary and direct primary elections will be held May 16, 1944.

Registration for that election closes April 6, 1944.

Eligible Voters

All eligible to vote at the 1943 Mayoralty election and who have not changed residence since registering, or will not change residence before April 6, 1944, are eligible to vote without further registration.

At this primary election the voter can vote only for candidates of the political party with which

he or she registered, *excepting* voters registered as of a political party not participating, or who declined to state a political party when registering, will be permitted to vote the *non-partisan ballot* only.

Changing Party Affiliation

A voter already registered may change the political affiliation on his affidavit of registration not later than April 6, 1944.

Final Registration Date

Those desiring to vote at the May 16 election and who are not now properly registered *must register on or before April 6, 1944*. To register for such election a person must be 21 years of age on or before the day of election and be able to read the Constitution in the English language and to write his or her name. Such person also must be a citizen of the United States and must have been such at least 90 days before the day of election; must have been a resident of the State of California for one year, of the city and county 90 days, and of the precinct 40 days by the day of election.

Changing County Residence

Any person now registered in any other county of this State but who will be a resident of this county 90 days at time of election, may register any time on or before April 6, 1944, for the May

primary, but when registering such person must advise the registration clerk of the previous registration in another county in order that such registration may be cancelled.

Must Appear in Person

A registration, a re-registration or changing of the political affiliation is by affidavit and requires the presence of the person interested. It *can not* be done by mail or telephone or through another party.

Office Open Daily

At the present time registration, etc., can only be made at the office of the City Hall, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (except Saturday to 12 noon), but later on branch registration places will be established throughout the city, and evening and Saturday afternoon hours at the City Hall.

Dates to Remember

February 7 was the last day to be naturalized, and last day to take up residence in this city and county by one who has been a resident of California since May 16, 1943.

April 6 is the last day to register or re-register.

May 16 is the date of the Primary Election.

The presidential election will be held November 7, 1944, and registration for that election closes September 28, 1944.

Victor Olander Warns If Courts O.K. Job Freeze, Labor Draft, Ruling Will Plague U. S. Long After War

"The freedom of the individual in the field of labor is the basic freedom from which all other liberties flow and without which they are of no avail," Victor A. Olander, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, declared in an address before the City Club of Chicago.

He added that it is this basic freedom, guaranteed by the Constitution, which is being challenged by the argument that the exigencies of war demand such compulsory labor measures as the job freeze and the labor draft.

"If the courts," he said, "interpret the Constitution as permissive of the job freeze and the labor draft, the interpretation will remain to trouble us and our children long after the war ceases."

Capital Draft Mentioned

Olander warned that conscription of capital was certain to follow a draft of labor.

In the *Weekly News Letter*, official organ of the Federation, attention was directed to a section of President Roosevelt's message to Congress in which he said, "Although we and our allies can win the war without such a measure, I am certain that nothing less than total mobilization of all our resources of manpower and capital will guarantee an earlier victory, and reduce the toll of suffering and sorrow and blood."

Setting forth that "at first glance, it might seem that President Roosevelt has recommended the passage of laws to draft both labor and capital," the *News Letter* said:

"However, after stating the Government 'already has the basic power to draft capital . . . on a basis of just compensation,' and stating as his opinion that 'total mobilization' of 'manpower and capital' is necessary to achieve an 'earlier victory,' the President presents reasons and arguments which apparently relate only to the drafting of 'manpower,' or labor, and not of 'capital.'

"Does he intend that American men and women are to be drafted into the service of private firms and

corporations? That, apparently, is the intention, according to the practically unanimous interpretation of the public press.

"The sponsors of the Austin-Wadsworth bill (S. 666) seem to hold the same opinion, namely, that the term 'national service' in reality simply means 'labor draft.' Immediately after the President's message had been received they announced the introduction of a 'substitute' Austin-Wadsworth bill. The draft features of their original bill (S. 666) dealt exclusively with labor.

Public Being Prepared?

"Nevertheless, it may well be that the seemingly incidental reference of the President to the mobilization of 'capital' is designed to prepare the public for future recommendations to have 'capital' put in the same draft category as he advises for labor," the *News Letter* said, adding: "If so, the internal economy of the nation may undergo a revolutionary change from which recovery will be rather difficult."

Class Issue Seen

The Federation paper concluded with the observation that if the President "intends merely a labor draft then a class issue arises sharply." "Forced labor," it continued, "has been designated by the Supreme Court of the United States as a form of slavery and involuntary servitude prohibited by the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution."

A.F.L. Executive Council Meeting

(Continued from Page One)

field of housing were approved by the executive council, which adopted a report submitted by Vice-President Harry C. Bates, chairman of the Federation's housing committee. The report provided for enlargement of the housing committee to seven members, to be appointed by the president of the A.F.L.; that the committee be authorized to employ one person on full time to handle its correspondence and routine work, and that authorization be given the committee to assist in local surveys of housing conditions and distribute information relating to current housing problems.

Next Meeting in Philadelphia

The council adjourned its session after deciding to hold its next meeting, beginning on May 1, in Philadelphia. The choice of that city was occasioned by the fact that the International Labor Organization will hold its annual meeting in Philadelphia during the last two weeks in April. This will be a highly important I.L.O. meeting, it is declared, because many post-war issues in which the international policies of labor are at stake will be considered there.

Elsewhere in this issue is given the text of the very important report of the A.F.L.'s Post-War Planning Committee, and another separate article tells of the decision of the A.F.L. to summon a group conference for bringing about united policies on post-war problems.

U. S. war expenditures in 1943 reached \$85,135,000,000, compared to \$52,406,000,000 in 1942.

A.F.L. to Invite Groups for Study of Post-War Problems

The American Federation of Labor executive council announced that it will invite leaders of business, industry, agriculture and the Government to participate with the Federation in a national conference to seek united policies and action on vital post-war problems.

"This conference is considered so important to the national welfare," states the A.F.L. News Service, "that the Carnegie Foundation has agreed to contribute \$10,000 toward meeting expenses. The A.F.L. will pay the rest."

A.F.L. President William Green and Vice-President Matthew Woll made the announcement at a press conference following the session of the executive council held in Miami last month, at which comprehensive post-war plans and programs were considered and adopted.

The executive council left it to the A.F.L. officers to set the time and place of the national post-war conference and to issue the invitations to outstanding groups in the nation's economic and political life. Representatives of all A.F.L. state federations and central bodies will be invited. The News Service reported on the council meeting continued:

"Prof. James T. Shotwell, of Columbia University, appeared before the executive council to present a plan to abolish future war and to settle international disputes by conciliation. Mr. Green said the Council was deeply impressed by his proposals. Professor Shotwell, who represented the Carnegie Foundation, also discussed plans for the national post-war conference."

"Santa Fe" Signs with Unions

History was made the latter part of last month when the Santa Fe Railway, which for nearly a quarter century has been dealing with a "company union" for its shopmen, formally signed an agreement with the American Federation of Labor shopcraft unions, which recently swept to victory in a National Mediation Board election on the far-flung lines of the transportation system.

Treasury Crusher on Banker's Idea

In a sharp rebuke to a Nebraska banker, the Treasury Department made it plain it emphatically opposes any attempt to force buying of War Bonds.

The Treasury's rebuke was given to Emil S. Placek of Wahoo, Neb., for his announced policy to turn over to local draft and ration boards the names of persons in his county who refuse to buy War Bonds or who subscribe less than their quota to the Fourth War Loan.

Vigorously denying any such instructions ever had gone out from Washington, a spokesman for Secretary Morgenthau declared: "There are not going to be any houses painted yellow in Nebraska or anywhere else in the United States if the Treasury can help it. This is a free country, and such methods are absolutely unnecessary. The people bought 50,000,000 individual bonds in the last drive without any compulsion, and certainly there is no reason to think it is necessary now."

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Labor Members of the Committee on Cost-of-Living Present Report Showing an Increase of 43.5 Per Cent

Facts and figures to support organized labor's assertion that wages have lagged far behind soaring costs of living have been given by the labor members of the Presidential Committee on the Cost of Living, as mentioned in our last week's issue.

The labor members have found that living costs have increased 43.5 per cent since January 1, 1940, instead of the 23.4 per cent reported by the U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Thorough Study Made

George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, and R. J. Thomas of the C.I.O. made the labor report, which was heavily documented.

Declaring that the index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics was worthless as a gauge in adjusting wages to the cost of living, the labor report declared that there was "a discrepancy of 28.5 per cent between the rise in living costs and the wage adjustments (14 per cent increases) allowed under the Little Steel formula."

Food costs, the report added, had jumped 74.2 per cent instead of the officially acknowledged 40.2 per cent; clothing, 72.2, instead of 33.7; rent, 15, instead of 12, and house furnishings, 62, instead of 27.8.

Bureau Statistics Questioned

It was asserted that the statistics of the Labor Department's bureau were inaccurate because their range of background was too narrow and that the Office of Economic Stabilization contributed to distortion of the price picture by confining price controls generally to the items studied by the bureau.

Broadened study of the basic items studied by the bureau—food, clothing, rent and housefurnishings—were the base of the labor report's conclusions.

Ruling on Farm Wages

Wages or salaries of agricultural workers which are \$2400 a year or more have been frozen by Director Fred M. Vinson of the Office of Economic Stabilization, the War Food Administration announced. He has also ruled that where those wages or salaries are above \$5000 they cannot be increased without prior approval of the War Food Administrator or the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Wages or salaries below \$2400 a year may be increased without prior approval unless the War Food Administrator has established specific ceilings for such labor. However, no reductions can be made in the wages or salaries for any particular work below the highest paid for that work between January 1, 1942, and September 15, 1944.

Vinson's explanation of the exemption of agricultural wages which are below \$2400 from limitations placed on all non-agricultural wage rates was that it is justified on the grounds that the general level of wages for agricultural labor is sub-standard, that a high disparity exists between wages paid labor in agriculture and wages paid labor in other essential war industries, and that the retention and recruitment of agricultural labor is of prime necessity in supplying needed foods and fibers.

SEVEN SONS IN SERVICE

The American Federationist prints a large picture of George W. Davis, member of the Carpenters' Union at Danville, Ill., who has seven sons in the armed forces, four of whom are already overseas. Davis has been a member of the Carpenters' organization for twenty-six years.

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The report pointed out that the statistics bureau figures took no account of quality deterioration except as this entered into broad averages, of the disappearance of many cheaper lines of goods, of the fact that far more persons eat meals away from home than formerly or of other little things that added up to big differences.

Union Report Cited

Giving an example of the little things, the labor members quoted from a report of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance that whereas seven or eight pieces of meat formerly went into a stew, the number now was five and the pieces were smaller.

Price Control and Subsidies

The Government's price control and subsidy programs, the report said, had been concentrated upon those food items used in the Bureau of Labor Statistics index and "in consequence, according to special surveys in a number of cities, the prices of other foods, important components of workers' budgets, have risen nearly twice as fast as those priced by the bureau."

Actual Cost Not Held Down

"Thus," the report added, "while the food index has been artificially held down by the differential administration of the price control laws and subsidy programs, the actual cost as a whole has not been held down. A similar result has occurred in connection with the rent component index."

"Notwithstanding this finding, the committee wishes to commend the O.P.A. for its efforts to control prices. We need more price control, not less."

Lumber Workers Win Election

Winning by nearly 3 to 1, the A.F.L. Lumber and Sawmill Workers administered a most decisive defeat to the C.I.O. at Chester, Calif., in an N.L.R.B. election.

The Northern California District Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers (A.F.L.) was deeply concerned with this election and should be credited for this signal victory. The Council is now working with the State Federation of Labor in preparing the case for wage increases and improved working conditions for members of its affiliated unions, to be presented before the West Coast Lumber Commission.

BRITISH COAL MINERS' WAGES

Recently the union coal miners of Britain asked for \$24 a week for men in the pits and \$22 for surface workers. They got \$20 and \$18, but even that is \$3.40 above the old maximum!

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Hail Industry Pension Fund As Milestone in Progress

Launching of the New York coat and suit industry retirement fund, first such industry-wide fund in the country, was hailed by representatives of the industry, labor and the federal government at a recent dinner. The fund covers 30,000 workers, members of the Cloakmakers' Union, affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

David Dubinsky, president of the I.L.G.W.U., said the establishment of the retirement fund was a step in the right direction because the oldest group of workers in the garment trades is to be found in the cloak and suit shops, workers "to whom the word retirement" is not a distant phrase but an approaching reality."

Industry Pioneers Move

"The coat and suit industry, being the first in the country to accept the principle of the obligation of secure retirement and to translate it into a practical retirement fund, deserves credit for its vision and its sound business sense," Dubinsky added.

Speaking for one of the employer associations signatory to the agreement, Joseph L. Dubow said the inauguration of the retirement fund marks "another highly important progressive step by a progressive industry."

Arthur L. Altmeyer, chairman of the Social Security Board, and also chairman of the fund, hailed its establishment as a milestone in the progress of social security as a supplement to the Social Security Act.

Pensions Begin in 1946

The contract creating the pension fund was entered into last June between the Cloakmakers' Union, headed by Israel Feinberg, and the various employer associations in the industry. The employers began the first week of this year to pay into the fund 3 per cent of their weekly payrolls. It is estimated that \$2,500,000 will be collected annually. The payment of pensions to workers is scheduled to begin in 1946, when reserves called for by actuarial requirements will have been accumulated.

MORE WAR GARDENS ASKED

Victory gardeners will have to raise 10,000,000 tons of vegetables in 22,000,000 gardens this year as their part of the United Nations' war plans, H. W. Hochbaum of Washington, chairman of the National Victory Garden Committee, states. He declared the figures represented 2,000,000 more gardens and 2,000,000 more tons of produce than last year.

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Battle of Statistics Coming Up?

Elsewhere in this issue is a brief summary of the report by the labor members of the Presidential Committee on the Cost of Living. It was stated this week that the report has now been submitted to an "expert" for study, its conclusions having been disputed, or at least protested, by industry members of the committee, the claim by the latter being there had been no examination by "competent" authorities of the labor members' findings and that the committee as a whole has made no findings on the subject.

This contention of the industry members must be considered as purely technical. The conclusions of the labor members undoubtedly will be adhered to by the authors, no matter what new findings the "experts" may bring forth or what may be the contention of the industry members on the subject. One may rest assured that the labor members had plenty of "expert" aid in arriving at their decision and that they have ample documentary and statistical proof for support.

But it would appear that there is about to begin a battle of the experts and statisticians, and that the main question—the cost of living and the dependability of the Department of Labor figures as a true guide—is about to be fought all over again.

It looks like a game. Away back in October 1942 there came the wage freeze, and assurance that prices would be controlled, even rolled back. Labor accepted the "freeze," with the understanding the other part of the "bargain" would be carried out. It soon became apparent the latter was not being done, and ever since ranking labor officials, not to mention the general public, have been laying down a barrage of protests in the form of statistics and general yelling. Nothing of a practical nature in the form of relief or of carrying out the other end of the bargain has been accomplished. The statistics rolled off the powers—that-be like water from a duck's back, and the general yelling might as well have been into a rain barrel.

Finally, late in October of last year, a highly ballyhooed delegation of labor officials marched boldly into the White House—by appointment—and there came forth the announcement that a presidential committee to investigate the cost-of-living and the Labor Department index on the subject had been appointed. Intimations were given that this committee was to report within sixty days. It turns out the committee, as a whole, has not yet reported. Only the labor members, as above mentioned, have arrived at any conclusion on the subject they were to investigate—and these conclusions now go to a "competent" authority for further investigation and report.

But who's looney now? And, can it be that it is a little too early on the political calendar to render a decision on the cost-of-living, lest in the event relief were afforded the voters might forget the boon, come next November? Or, again, is it just a game? Within three or four weeks the whole world was reportedly fixed up for the "foreseeable future." Why not a little more speed on the home front?

Another Anti-Labor Fizzle

(From "Labor," Washington, D. C.)

A new propaganda campaign against labor, spearheaded by a "scare" speech by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, has turned out to be a "dud."

In a national broadcast, Stimson charged there were twenty-two strikes in war plants during the week ending January 5 and that these caused a loss of 135,000 man-days in war production.

To make the picture appear blacker, he declared this was the equivalent of "nine divisions gone A.W.O.L. for one day," and claimed soldiers are up in arms over such defections on the home front.

Union leaders analyzed Stimson's figures and made some remarkable findings. They discovered, for instance, that the 135,000 man-days, even if accepted as true, amounted to less than 7-100 of 1 per cent of the 200,000,000 man-days worked for the week.

Furthermore, far from indicating a wave of strikes, the 7-100 of 1 per cent is only about a third of the rate of losses officially ascribed to work stoppages during 1943.

Even more significant is the kind of disputes used by Stimson to arrive at his inflated figure. For example, he included in it a walkout of janitors and other building service employees at the University of Minnesota, a stoppage at a sportswear plant in Boston, and a controversy at a printing plant in Indianapolis.

Besides, Stimson had not a word of criticism for employers who provoked the week's strikes, union spokesmen declared. For instance, one of the cases cited by Stimson involved workers at the John A. Roebling Sons wire and cable plant in Trenton, N. J.

Union chiefs said this walkout was caused by refusal of the management to rehire discharged ex-service men, even though the company's contract with the union required such reinstatements.

Far from being alarming, the strike situation in this country, they said, is less grave than in Great Britain, which is right up against the guns of Hitler, and which has a national service law. This is borne out by a report carried by the *New York Times* and written by its London correspondent.

Strikes in Britain, the correspondent said, were greater in 1943 than any other year since the turn of the century. On the other hand, in this country, the number of walkouts last year was considerably less than 1941 and below many other pre-war years.

Charges are beginning to be aired by some writers that military chieftains are deliberately exaggerating the strike picture in order to cast a smokescreen over slow progress of American forces overseas.

Lieutenant Commander C. S. Seely, retired navy official and now editor of the *Navy News*, declared this week in an article written for *The Progressive*, national liberal weekly published in Madison, Wis., that "our inability to make appreciable headway in Italy apparently has made some of our leaders look about for a scapegoat."

"As usual, labor is 'discovered' as that unfortunate animal," Seely said.

After minting millions of white pennies to save copper we now find ourselves with a surplus of copper.

"I say in relation to the principle that all men are created equal, let it be as nearly reached as we can. If we cannot give freedom to every creature, let us do nothing that will impose slavery upon any other creature."—Abraham Lincoln.

State barriers against voting by negroes were broken down last week in Mississippi when the House approved an absent-voters' law to permit colored soldiers to vote without payment of poll taxes or prior registration. Senate concurrence is considered certain. More than 50,000 of Mississippi's 150,000 men in the armed services are negroes. Its 1,000,000 negro population is larger than that of any other state.

Comment on the News

(International Labor News Service)

Our Army and Navy and other fighting forces provide us with a typical cross section of American life, drawn from all sections of our citizenry.

The daily press and radio commentators continue their propaganda designed to lead us to believe the personnel of our armed forces is alien to and divorced from labor. In other words, when a union mechanic puts on a uniform he forgets he was once a worker.

It is not difficult for us here to see behind this anti-labor campaign, but the worker in uniform on foreign soil does not get the full story. He sees only what our fascist propaganda writers want him to read.

* * *

There was the Rickenbacker incident, when the World War air hero's name appeared in every paper in the country. But did you read anything about Capt. William Cherry and John Barteeck, both members of A.F.L. unions, who also were on that raft?

And there was Billy Miller, who just recently in Italy captured 18 men and a German lieutenant and brought them to our lines. Miller is a member of Bakers' Union No. 145 in Peoria, Ill.

These men and thousands like them were union mechanics, and they have not forgotten that their union brothers on the job here are working with them.

And, in spite of the campaign to discredit organized labor, these men will be union mechanics when they return. They don't believe everything they read in the papers. Nobody could.

* * *

The Washington (D. C.) *Post* is an advocate of a labor draft but it is honest enough to admit that one argument for such a draft hasn't a leg to stand on. That is the argument that a labor draft—called by its friends "national service legislation"—prevents wartime strikes.

The *Post* cites British experience to show the unsoundness of the argument and incidentally it points out that an occasional strike may not be all evil.

"Some Americans," says the *Post*, "will be surprised to learn that the number of strikes occurring in Great Britain in 1943 reached an all-time high for the twentieth century. Although more than half these strikes were so-called 'quickies'—that is, unauthorized work stoppages that lasted two days or less—the amount of time lost from all strikes added up to 1,800,000 man-days for the year, the worst record since 1937. And that despite the fact that the British worker is subject to compulsory national service laws."

The *Post* goes on to say that British strike figures "clearly indicate" that national service legislation "is not a sure-fire panacea for the strike evil, as many Americans seem to think." Then it adds:

"The British Government's extraordinary powers to deal with strikes, coupled with the support of organized labor, have prevented serious work stoppages in essential war industries such as have occurred here. But the British have not discovered any cure for the occasional strikes that are spontaneous explosions of pent-up irritation generated by the stress and strain of war. Strikes of this kind provide a means of blowing off steam and relieving pressures that, given no outlet, would constitute a more dangerous threat to the war production program."

"It is well to remind [the public] who is a labor leader. He is the man who a year or two ago delivered parcels from the department store. He is the man who recently delivered coal to your home. He is the carpenter who helped build your house, the iron worker you daily saw leave his home in overalls and carrying his lunch basket. He is the man who took a deep interest in his job and the conditions under which he and his fellow union members worked. For his labors he was chosen an official of the union."

—Minnesota Teamster.

Fourth War Loan Drive—Buy an EXTRA \$100 Bond!

"Verminous Leadership"—Dangerous to Workers

By PHILIP PEARL, in A.F.L. News Service

Every Army induction center is equipped with a delousing station. The C.I.O. could use one now, too. For the events of the past few weeks have proved even to the most broadminded that several C.I.O. unions are infested with a type of verminous leadership that is dangerous to the health and safety of the workers of America.

Without conscience, without scruple, without the last vestige of principle, these so-called union leaders have betrayed the basic freedoms of the American labor movement in a major crisis.

This crisis was precipitated by the proposal for a National Service Act, an ill-considered measure which, if enacted, would throw the nation's amazingly successful production program into confusion, disrupt the war effort and deprive American workers of the freedom and independence which makes them superior to the enslaved workers of the Axis.

Proposal Was Denounced

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor and President Philip Murray of the C.I.O. did not hesitate to denounce the draft-labor proposal. A united front was presented on this vital issue. And then the Communist lie of the C.I.O. spoke up.

First we heard from the illustrious Joe Curran of the National Maritime Union, who has been hailed far and wide as one of the great heroes in this war because of his successful fight to evade the draft. Mr. Curran announced that the patriotic thing for labor to do was to consent to enslave itself under the terms of a National Service Act.

This might have been considered merely an individual aberration, but then we heard from Harry Bridges, the supremely loyal leader of the C.I.O. Longshoremen's Union who also has assumed heroic proportions in American life for his long and successful fight to evade deportation. Mr. Bridges also endorsed the draft-labor law.

Comes the New "Party Line"

Then came the leaders of the C.I.O. Radio and Electrical Workers' Union and one or two lesser lights of other C.I.O. unions with similar statements.

There was only one way to account for the sudden and impressive desertion of these so-called union leaders from the announced policy of the leader of their national organization. That would be the formation of a new Communist party "line," which is the supreme law to these gentry. So we looked up the *Daily Worker* and, sure enough, that fearless and independent organ of Moscow opinion had come out for the National Service Act. There was the solution of the mystery and there was the proof of one of the most despicable betrayals in the staggering record of treachery perpetrated by the Communist party in America.

That Sudden Conversion

There still lingers in our minds the memory of the Communist party's strategy when the Hitler-Stalin pact was still in force. Then the Joe Currahs and the Harry Bridges were denouncing the fight against Hitler as an "imperialistic war." They were the outstanding non-interventionists in America. When our country was desperately striving to step up war production in the days before Pearl Harbor, the Communist leaders in the C.I.O. were fomenting strikes in the shipyards and the aircraft factories. It was only when Hitler double-crossed Stalin and invaded

Mounting A.F.L. Membership

Secretary-Treasurer George Meany reported to the recent meeting of the executive council that the average dues-paid membership in the American Federation of Labor during the last four months of 1943 had reached the new high total of 6,586,470. This figure, Meany explained, represented a gain of 758,970 members over the same period in 1942.

The membership figures were included in a detailed financial report which showed that the American Federation of Labor is now in the strongest position in its history.

Russia that the Communists in America became converted to patriotism.

This sudden conversion has now reached such lengths that the Communists in this country are espousing capitalism and fraternizing for political advancement with such outstanding statesmen as Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City.

Nothing New to the Reds

If the Communist party line can be stretched that far, we should not be surprised if it can also embrace a draft-labor proposal. For this idea is nothing new to the Russian brand of communism. Even in normal times, labor in Russia is subject to conditions even more stringent than conscription. We heard during the first Five-Year plan of workers being executed because they supposedly did not meet production schedules.

Such conditions may be acceptable to the people of Russia and the so-called Russian trade union movement. But we can do without them here in America, thank you. And the C.I.O. can do without the counterparts of Russian trade unions. Unless it rids itself of the Currahs and the Bridges, they will stab the C.I.O. in the back at every opportunity. And until the C.I.O. succeeds in delousing these unions, there is little hope of a united labor movement in America.

It's Kite-Flying Season, But . . .

The kite-flying season is at hand and the boys and girls soon will be feeling the urge to fly one.

However, attention is being directed to the fact that today kites flown in congested city districts are a distinct menace to the war effort. They become entangled in electric lines and interrupt the electric service supplied to industries engaged in producing critical war supplies. Any threat to war production should be eliminated.

Also, these are days of a manpower shortage. The men charged with the responsibility of maintaining our electric supply are working day and night. Their forces are limited. They should not be compelled to stop important work to disentangle kites from the electric lines and restore service that has been interrupted by the thoughtlessness of others.

The police and school departments are co-operating in discouragement of kite-flying near electric lines.

"CAMOUFLAGE" BANDAGES

The Army has developed brown-tinted, "camouflaged" bandages, because white ones are ideal targets for enemy snipers and sharpshooters.

Lachman Bros.
GIVE TIME
MISSION AT 16TH

One of America's Largest Homefurnishers

Practically Our ENTIRE STOCK

of

Upholstered Furniture

Drastically Reduced

2-pc. Suites, Sofas, Club Chairs, Divans,
Occasional Chairs
LIBERAL TERMS!

San Francisco
SUtter 6654

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Caswell's
NATIONAL CREST
Coffee

Direct
Delivered
for
Freshness

Survey Started on Coast Observance of W.M.C. Plan

Opening of an extensive program to aid employers in complying with War Manpower Commission regulations in the five critical labor areas on the Pacific Coast was announced last Friday by William K. Hopkins, western regional director for W.M.C., and Wesley O. Ash, regional director of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, U. S. Department of Labor.

Inspectors from the Wage-Hour Division will check over employers' records on employment, confer with them on any violations, and turn over tabulations of their fact-finding investigations to W.M.C. officials for any action deemed necessary, Hopkins said.

The investigation will cover the extent to which employers are complying with the War Manpower Commission's basic regulations governing employment stabilization, the minimum wartime work-week and labor priorities and ceilings. It will be started immediately, and at first will be limited to employers of the five critical areas: San Francisco Bay district, Los Angeles, San Diego, Portland, Vancouver, Wash., and the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton area.

It was explained that the essential purpose of the investigation is to promote the fullest compliance with the W.M.C. program and particularly with the labor priorities and ceilings set up under the West Coast plan. "In addition to providing information for the use of sanctions or such other action as may be necessary to correct violations, a systematic check on compliance will help in acquainting all industry and labor with W.M.C. program requirements," Hopkins said.

ACCIDENT DEATHS OF CHILDREN

Accidental deaths among children have increased during the war period, the National Safety Council reports. In the home, there were 1200 more deaths in 1943 among children under 5 than in the pre-war year of 1941—a rise of 25 per cent. In the 5 to 14-year group, the increase in home deaths was almost 24 per cent. Fatalities among children in public places, other than in traffic, increased by 21 per cent. Most of this increase was among children 5 to 14 years old. In contrast with the total increase among children of 2200 deaths, in home and public (non-traffic) accidents, deaths among adult civilians in the active ages dropped 9 per cent.

Work on seven steel plants—\$97,000,000—is stopped because we have plenty of steel.

HENDERSON INCOME TAX SERVICE

Will prepare wage earners' Federal Tax Returns for

\$2, Short Form,
\$3, Long Form

Separate Returns, 50 per cent additional, providing you complete our questionnaire.

WE ARE AGAIN AT
2960 Sixteenth Street
Near Labor Temple

Other convenient locations at

1161 Market Street Opposite Leavenworth	514 Clement Street Near Sixth Avenue
443 Castro Street Near Market	1263 Twentieth Avenue Between Lincoln and Irving
3206-A Mission Street Near Valencia	1240 Fillmore Street Near Eddy
4476-A Mission Street Near Excelsior	1310 Stockton Street Near Broadway
5126 Third Street Near Bay View	557 Haight Street Near Steiner
2851 Twenty-fourth Street Corner Bryant	

A.F.L. Offers Program on Post-War Reconstruction

A clear-cut and orderly plan for post-war reconstruction in America, designed to bring about maximum production and full employment in the shortest possible time, was approved by the A.F.L. Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor at its quarterly meeting last month in Miami.

Due to the importance of the program, and to the end that members of the A.F.L.'s affiliated unions may familiarize themselves with its proposals, and be prepared to give them full support, the text of the report, which was drafted by the A.F.L.'s Post-War Committee, is here reproduced, as follows:

Text of Proposal

National reorganization for our post-war economy must reverse the controls by which we achieved war mobilization and plan for production that will sustain national income at present levels and thus provide abundant employment. The main war controls are government contracts, materials control, selective service and manpower agencies, government ownership of plants, machinery and output, price control and rationing, foreign commerce control, limitation of civilian production. Such a large proportion of production facilities are under these controls, that upon the manner of their release will result progress toward expansion of civilian production, or chaos precipitating widespread idleness of machines and men, low national income and a rapid trend to depression.

Orderly Planning

Orderly planning to reverse war controls, so that free enterprise can take over, requires experience, skill and sure determination of policies and action. In order to have co-ordination of planning and timing of demobilization of manpower from the armed forces and war industries as well as cancellation of war contracts and disposal of the Government's war property, with reconversion of production facilities to production for peace, Congress should establish a Reconstruction Commission with full authority to determine the over-all policies to be followed by all agencies concerned with reconstruction. The legislation should require the commission to make quarterly reports to Congress and should provide for a joint committee of the Senate and House to receive and review these reports, hold public hearings and make recommendations to the House and Senate.

In order that the commission shall be representa-

tive of the chief groups concerned in reconversion, it shall consist of representatives appointed by the President from nominations submitted by the organizations representing employers, labor and farmers, and a chairman appointed by the President. These appointments should be confirmed by the Senate. In order that the Reconstruction Commission may have the information and experience accumulated by the W.P.B. and the permanent governmental departments, representatives of these agencies should be designated to serve as consultants to the Commission.

Policy-Making Agency Only

The over-all commission should be a policy-making agency only. Over-all policies should stem from general agreement that we want a civilian economy which will provide all citizens with opportunity to earn a comfortable living and with a national income that will sustain the highest standards of living our production will provide. Reconversion policies should facilitate progress toward that goal. Policies approved by the Commission should be put into effect by the administrative agencies with responsibility for reconversion. The proposed legislation should contain these provisions:

Provides for Co-ordinator

1. There shall be a co-ordinator of contract cancellation responsible for integrating the application of over-all policies to contract cancellation by the procurement agencies. He shall have an advisory committee to aid him with the specific problems of his jurisdiction—the principles to be followed in contract cancellation by the various procurement agencies. He shall also assure himself that policies are followed. This co-ordinator shall submit progress reports to the commission.

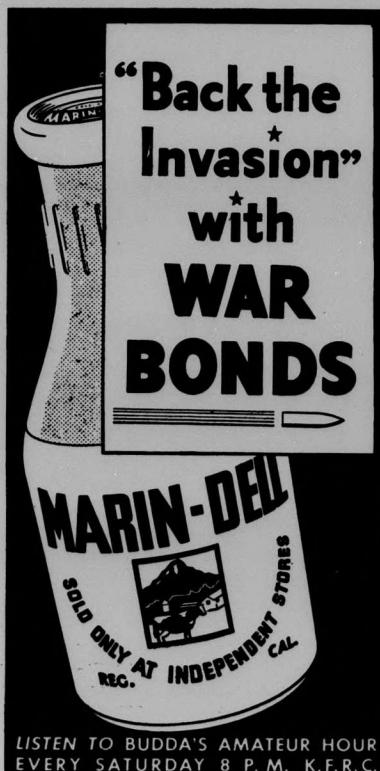
Of Government Property

2. One or more co-ordinators, as the commission shall determine, charged with seeing policies are followed in determining the disposition of government property. Co-ordinators are directed to create and consult with advisory civilian committees selected from groups affected by decisions made.

3. There shall be a co-ordinator charged with integrating the application of over-all policies with respect to manpower problems in reconversion—demobilization of the armed forces, change-overs in production, closing down of government plants, changes in agriculture, etc. He shall also be authorized to establish and direct to consult with an advisory committee representative of industry, labor and farmers.

W.P.B. Recommended

4. The W.P.B. is the logical agency to secure the co-operation of industrial managements for reconversion in accord with over-all policies. By adjusting its controls over materials distribution and production limitation, it will assure return of production facilities to civilian production. It should be made responsible for aiding them to reach production levels



Milk Wagon Drivers Keep Service Members Informed

"The Skimmings" is the title of a letter forwarded from time to time by the Service Welfare Committee of Milk Wagon Drivers' Union No. 226 to members of the organization serving in farflung places, in the nation's armed services, and also to their sons.

The union's committee was established almost immediately after members began to be called to the colors, and functions, as its name implies, in all matters pertaining to the service members—keeping them in touch with their organization and forwarding articles which may add to their comfort. Members of the union's committee are A. J. Lawrence (chairman), James Higgins and George Givens.

A late issue of "The Skimmings" announces that incumbent officers of the union had been re-elected by acclamation, and each of them is designated by a "pet" name, ranging from "Kingfish" to "Pride of Daly City." It was stated that the union had made a second appropriation to carry on the welfare committee's work "and you can rest assured that if additional sums are needed the membership will grant same." The present mailing list of the news letter was announced as having reached 200, and the service men were being requested to forward their photographs to the union for its permanent record on war matters.

A feature of the letter is a brief resume of important local general news, and added to this are items pertaining to members of the unions who are in the service, their general location, advancement in rank, and other personal happenings. One "lucky" member of the union was reported as being at a camp with 3000 WACs. "The Cheese Vat" section of the letter is devoted to humor, and to jokes told at the expense of various members of the union, which should serve to lighten the hours for those who are absent and to whom the committee of No. 226 is attempting to carry cheer and remembrance pending their return.

that will sustain abundant employment as quickly as possible in line with the controlling policies of the Reconstruction Administration.

5. Price control and rationing of scarce commodities must be continued until stability is attained, and should be geared to plans of the Reconstruction Commission.

6. A national employment service, organized for rapid, efficient action is essential for directing displaced workers and demobilized soldiers to suitable develop. Transportation expenses should be assured when workers must move to new areas. Every effort should be made to time civilian employment development with demobilization of the armed forces and the release of workers from war production.

Aid to Workers and Industry

7. Provisions should be made to tide workers and industries over financial difficulties; (a) for workers, the enactment of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill, which provides for both displaced workers and demobilized soldiers; (b) for industries, quick settlement of war contracts, speedy removal of government property, and loans through the Federal Reserve banks or other agencies.

APPRENTICE DEMONSTRATION

The hope of the family returned from his first day's work at a munitions factory with fingers bandaged. "Oh, Bert," said his father, "how's this?" "Well," said the bright one, "the foreman said the machine was foolproof, but I soon showed him."

CERTAINLY . . .

You can buy all your home furnishings on easy credit at . . .



**Get Your Next
SUIT
at
Roos Bros.
Market at Stockton Street**

Manpower Commission Representatives Present Plan For Procuring More Workers in Bay Area Industries

Details of a four-point program whereby the 103,000 war workers the War Manpower Commission estimates are necessary in the Central California area may be obtained, were made public this week by Sam Kagel, acting director of the War Manpower Commission, Northern California Area, and Henry W. von Morpurgo, general manager of the Victory Manpower Campaign Committee, which was formed recently to work in co-operation with the W.M.C. to relieve the manpower shortage in this critical area.

Outline of Program

The program, as outlined by Kagel and von Morpurgo, consists of the following: (1) Recruitment of new employees for war and essential civilian industries. (2) Reduction of absenteeism and turnover among present workers. (3) Improvement in the utilization of labor now employed. (4) Observance of the war manpower employment ceilings program and stabilization plan.

Kagel estimates that of the 103,000 workers estimated to be "missing" at the present time, approximately 62,000 can be drawn locally from employable women who are not now working, returned service men, and from less-essential industries and other sources.

Caring for Tasks of "Missing"

The work of the 41,000 still "missing" will have to be made up by increased production by those now engaged in war work in the ten counties of this area, Kagel said. He pointed out that this can be accomplished through continued reduction of labor turnover and absenteeism and by better utilization of labor now employed.

"Since the W.M.C. 'Manpower Ceilings Plan' requiring clearances and specific job referrals was put into effect last November, there has been a reduction of 35 per cent in labor turnover in essential in-

dustries" Kagel said. "Contrary to expectations, this percentage of reduction has been maintained throughout December and January. There still is room for improvement in the volume of turnover. There is also plenty of room for improvement in absenteeism and in the use of the labor now employed. Activities designed to correct these phases of the problem will be continued by the W.M.C., working in close co-operation with labor and management through its labor-management committee."

Manpower Campaign Committee

How the Victory Manpower Campaign will be tied in with the W.M.C. efforts was outlined by von Morpurgo. "The Victory Manpower Campaign Committee was organized to provide the machinery and the funds the W.M.C. lacks for recruitment and for effective public and employee relations work," he said. "The committee, whose membership includes the members of the Labor-Management Committee of W.M.C., works in close co-operation with the War Mobilization Committee and with Government procurement agencies.

Voluntary Financial Aid

"Funds are already being raised by voluntary contributions from patriotic individuals and firms who recognize that nothing must be allowed to retard war production in this, the nation's strategic area for the production, transportation and shipment of war materials to the South Pacific. These funds are being used for the first phase of the program. Recruitment advertisements, urging men and women to take war jobs immediately, are now running in some thirty-six daily newspapers throughout the ten counties of central California. It is planned to extend this recruiting campaign and then to go into other phases of the program, which include activities designed to reduce absenteeism and turnover among those now employed."

Census Takers Wanted

The U. S. Census Bureau immediately needs 300 men and women as census takers. A special survey is being made to determine problems on food, clothing and shelter in swollen population areas. After one or two days of preliminary training enumerators will list, by street and number, the dwellings and structures in the counties of San Francisco, Marin, San Mateo, Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano. Census takers will work in crews in their own neighborhoods. Positions are for 60 days and applicants must be United States citizens with at least two years of high school education and be able to write legibly.

Women not now working are especially desired and will receive \$6 a day, with overtime pay on Saturday. Men are preferred for part-time night work. Further information can be obtained at the U. S. Census Bureau office, 46 Kearny street, San Francisco; the U. S. Civil Service offices, Federal building, San Francisco, and Post Office building, Oakland; and the U. S. Employment Service offices.

CARPENTERS SEND CIGARETTES

President William L. Hutcheson of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America has ordered 550,000 union label cigarettes to be sent to members of the armed forces overseas.

LUXOR CABS
THE OFFICIAL UNION
LABEL EXHIBITION CABS
ORDWAY 4040
Strictly Independent

Retail Delivery Drivers' Officials

Retail Delivery Drivers' Union No. 278, at its election held last month, named the following officers for the ensuing year:

President, George Maloney; vice-president, Edward Warren; secretary-treasurer and business agent, Joseph Lynch; recording secretary and assistant business agent, H. McNally; trustees, J. Ohlson, A. Black and B. Mullin.

Delegates to the San Francisco Labor Council will be Joseph Lynch, H. McNally, Walter R. Otto, Ed Warren and B. Mullin.

Meetings of the union, which is an affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, are held in the Labor Temple on the first Thursday of each month.

MOTHER, THINK TWICE!

Mother (on train): "If you're not a good boy, I'll slap you." Junior: "You do, and I'll tell the conductor how old I really am."

Capacity Audience Hears Vice-President Wallace

An audience that taxed the seating capacity of the Civic Auditorium greeted Henry A. Wallace, Vice-President of the United States, at the first of his speaking engagements in San Francisco last Sunday night.

Mr. Wallace declared in his Auditorium address that he wanted to "kill the myth" that the war debt will stand in the way of the nation's future prosperity. He expressed the conviction that interest on the debt can be paid, and a standard of living maintained at least 50 per cent higher than in the decade of the '30s. With a reasonably full employment, he said, the nation can have a yearly income of over \$130,000,000,000.

Health As a National Asset

He referred to the advance in scientific comforts and in the field of public utilities, these consequently affording a great aid in general productivity and hence of national prosperity. Among things which the people can have "over and above a new car and new radio," he placed health as the first item, and said the people would be at least 30 per cent more efficient if they were in maximum good health. He declared that at a cost of \$2 per year per person it will be possible to extend the working life of the individual ten years.

Good food, which comes from plentiful life-giving vitamins, he declared to be a necessity, and after good food and health he placed good housing, followed by rural electrification in all areas where feasible.

In Time of Peace

"When we are free of the terrific waste of war," Mr. Wallace emphasized, "we can devote our will and our efforts to improving our country and again we can hope to maintain results beyond anything we had ever previously hoped."

During his stay the Vice-President visited the City Hall, where he was greeted by Mayor Lapham and ranking Army and Navy officials. He also addressed a Commonwealth Club luncheon, and a breakfast meeting of consular officials from South America, his remarks to the latter being given in Spanish. A conference with Democratic Party members was included in his programmed stay, and late Monday night he departed for the Northwest by plane.

WHAT! WE DON'T FOLLOW THEM?

The War Production Board does not intend to follow the example of Britain and relax restriction on men's clothing, its officials have declared. After March 1, Britishers may have trouser cuffs, double-breasted suits, pleats and extra pockets.



Watchmakers' Union

GUARANTEE and BOND
LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM

Ask for Our Written Guarantee

**PROTECT YOUR VALUABLES
SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES
OF ALL SIZES AVAILABLE**

at

The Bank of California Mission Branch

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Corner 16th Street and Julian Avenue

San Francisco

Run o' the Hook

By FRED E. HOLDERBY
President of Typographical Union No. 21

At the next regular meeting of the union, on Sunday, February 20, San Francisco Typographical Union will nominate candidates for all offices of the International Typographical Union to be considered by the membership at the general election to be held on Wednesday, May 17. There is competition for every office, and all members should take advantage of this, their only opportunity, to participate in decision on which candidates should be permitted a place on the final ballot. Get out and vote!

Thirty Years Ago—From "Typographical Topics" in a February, 1914, LABOR CLARION: "Pension checks to the amount of \$590 for the past four weeks have been received from International headquarters in Indianapolis, and have been handed to the parties entitled to them." Checks have been arriving regularly at the end of each four-week period from International headquarters for retired members of San Francisco Typographical Union since the above date, which was not long after inception of our Pension Fund. The amount received and paid to local members has, however, increased considerably, the last check, arriving on February 2, being for the sum of \$6440. This means an average total of more than \$1600 received weekly by retired members of San Francisco Union.

John McNeary, retired member of No. 21, is now convalescing at his home, 2200 Leavenworth street, after recovery from a heart attack which kept him in a hospital for two months, a large portion of this time being spent in an oxygen tent. He is now well on the road to recovery, and his friends are asked to visit him.

Funeral services were conducted on Wednesday of last week for M. Gorfinkel, member of the printing firm of Lanson & Gorfinkel, 534 Jackson street, since 1910, who passed away on Saturday, January 29. A native of San Francisco, deceased was 67 years of age, and is survived by his wife. He was a retired member of the Bookbinders' Union.

Secretary Howard Eden, of San Mateo Typographical Union, and wife were dinner guests of friends in the city last Sunday evening.

Emma C. Smith, retired member of No. 21, residing in Oakland, has been spending the past two weeks with relatives in Los Angeles. She is expected back the last of this week.

Secretary Henry E. Clemens of Los Angeles Typographical Union was a visitor in the city over last week-end, returning home via the Valley route Sunday evening.

Raymond L. ("The Mighty Chief") Ready, a member of the Merchant Marines, arrived in port on Friday of last week, having returned unscathed from another trip to the South Seas.

Leslie Kinnard of Sacramento visited with friends in San Francisco last Sunday.

Golf News — By Fred N. Leach

The regular monthly meeting of the officers and board of directors will be held next Monday, February 14, at 235 Twenty-fifth avenue. All members of

JAS. H. REILLY & CO. FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Phone Mission 7711 29th and Dolores Streets
Official Undertaker of S. F. Typographical Union No. 21

the board are asked to be present, as important matters will come up for discussion.

Among the items on the agenda for this meeting is the annual tournament. This annual dinner and tournament has always been the feature of the Association year, and last year despite the wartime restrictions was the most successful of any. It will take careful advance planning this year, and the board will start on the plans at this meeting.

Another item of importance is the coming match play cup championship. The qualifying round is always played the day of the March tournament, and the first round is on the day of the April tournament.

Then the final important item on the agenda will be the selection of a course for the February tournament. Last month's selection of Millbrae was productive of much pleasant comment. We will play Millbrae again soon.

OFF THE FAIRWAY—Paul Gallagher and this correspondent wish to go on record formally thanking Bob Davis for his financial aid last week. It will pay for our golf for months! . . . Understand that "Cousin" Paul, Howard Watson and Jack Tappendorff journeyed out to Millbrae last Sunday, and also that seen sloshing through the morass at Sharp Park was Percy Crebassa, Charlie White *et al.* . . . Vic Lansberry is back on his feet again, and he threatens to be at the next tourney and pin the champs' ears back. Incidentally, talking about the Lansberry clan—Corporal Luke of the Marines, now in the South Pacific, in a letter to his wife instructed her to see that a buck went to the Golf Association for his 1944 membership. Needless to say, the card was sent on—with the compliments of the Association, and with the best wishes, too, of all the membership.

Women's Auxiliary No. 21 — By Mabel A. Skinner

San Francisco Women's Auxiliary will hold its regular business meeting February 18, at 8 p.m., in Redmen's building, Golden Gate avenue. Dues for the ensuing quarter will be payable at this time. Let's keep up the record for attendance set at the January meeting. Cards and refreshments.

Final arrangements will be made for the rummage sale to be held next week, February 17, 18 and 19, at 2108 Sutter street. The store will be open from 12 to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, that members may bring in their donations. Mrs. Holderby especially stresses the large assortment of infants' wear. So tell your friends who may be interested.

The executive committee met at the home of Mrs. Georgia Holderby last Tuesday. The auditing committee met at Mrs. Ann McLeod's home Thursday.

We wish to correct a mistake in a recent issue. Mrs. Jack Bardsley has a grandson, and *not* a granddaughter. Incidentally, Mrs. Wallace finally returned to Miami after being compelled to give up her seat on the plane, and not being able to make train connections.

"Send Your Books to War" Drive

Urgent requests for books have come from West Coast embarkation points, the Merchant Marine, transport ships and from a number of isolated units throughout the states.

Because of this need, the California Library Association is launching a state-wide "Send Your Books to War" campaign this month. The California State Federation of Labor has indorsed this drive and urges all of its affiliates to co-operate with the local director of the campaign in their respective communities.

-SAFEWAY-
YOUR FRIENDLY
GROCER
Offers
LOW EVERY DAY
SHELF PRICES

Confirms Labor's Claims— Hidden Rise In Living-Cost

Two of labor's chief complaints about the hidden rise in the cost of living which is not formally reflected in the so-called "cost-of-living" index issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, have been confirmed by no less an authority than Price Administrator Chester Bowles, in testifying before the Pepper subcommittee of the Senate education and labor committee, that cheap goods are disappearing from the stores and that deterioration in quality is widespread.

These two factors have contributed to a rise in the cost of living but they are not measured in the Department of Labor's cost-of-living index.

In Clothing Industry

Bowles said that many manufacturers of clothing had shifted production to higher priced goods on which they could make bigger profits, despite the fact that they were making "four or five times" as much as they were before the war. As a result, low-cost goods are vanishing from the market.

Calling the present situation alarming, Administrator Bowles placed the blame on the following: (1) The congressional ban on grade labeling, and (2) the failure of the War Production Board to force manufacturers to continue making the lower-cost goods.

Produce Higher-Cost Lines

Before the war, Bowles testified, many clothing manufacturers made cheap clothing at cost to absorb their overhead charges, but with the war boom they began to go into the higher-cost lines.

He went on to say: "The lower-cost goods are practically going out of the market and manufacturers are going almost entirely into the higher-cost lines. We don't have the authority to stop them, and the effect is bad."

He pointed out that the \$3.98 dresses which replaced the \$1.98 ones—and which cannot be found any more—are hardly any better in quality. In a prepared statement Mr. Bowles had called quality deterioration "a national scandal," but eliminated these words in the statement submitted to the committee.

Staff Investigators Lacking

Other factors mentioned as responsible for the rise in the cost of living were the fact that the O.P.A. is badly hampered because it has less than one staff investigator for each county to police 2,000,000 stores, and the uncertainty about the use of subsidies for control of food prices.

Because of the shortage of inspectors, Bowles testified that 60 per cent of the round steak sold in July was sold at higher than ceiling prices, but that O.P.A.'s "pitifully small staff" couldn't stop it.

He denounced all talk about compromise on subsidies, stating that it would take at least \$1,500,000,000 a year to hold down food prices and that a "right job" could not be done if there were any compromise on that figure.

BABY TENDERS SET PAY SCALE

"Baby sitters" who are Girl Scouts have their own stabilized wage program in Somerville, N. J. The Scouts have set an hourly rate of 30 cents until midnight and 40 cents an hour after 12 o'clock for minding children while parents are out for the evening.

PROTECT YOUR EYES

*Good Vision Will Help Win the Decision
Faulty eyes Blur, Fog, see Double, causes errors and
Accidents, Waste Time and Materials*

DR. R. LEE OTIS

OPTOMETRIST

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IN THE MISSION SINCE 1923

Son of George D. Gilmour Attains High Training Mark

Numerous members of the labor movement in San Francisco are acquainted with George D. Gilmour, a retired member of Millmen's Union No. 422 and a former delegate to the District Council of Carpenters.

This week "George" is exhibiting great pride—and justifiably so. His son, Robert C. Gilmour, has made a mark for himself in training for the armed service. The son, who is now 44 years of age, served in World War I, and is a native of this city. In his earlier days he attained a reputation in athletics, attested to by Walter Christie, former University of California director in that field. Later he was employed in the post office and in publicity work.

The immediate source of the father's present gratification, and upon which both he and the son are being congratulated, is the following article contained in *The Bealiner*, a newspaper issued at Camp Beale, Calif.:

"Sgt. Robert C. Gilmour, recently returned from a three-month course of specialized training at the Quartermaster School, Camp Lee, Va., was cited for outstanding achievement by the commanding officer of the school, Col. Thomas J. Chrisman, according to a story in the Richmond *Times-Dispatch*.

"A personal letter to Colonel Chrisman from Lt. D. Winnick, commander of Company F, acclaimed Gilmore and one other man as the two highest-scoring men in the huge class, attended by officers and non-coms alike.

"The mission of the quartermaster non-commissioned officers' administration and supply course (advanced), which Gilmour attended, is to train selected personnel as key commissioned and non-commissioned officers for administrative and supply duty with quartermaster units in the zone of the interior and theater of operations.

"The Richmond paper also carried a picture of Gilmour being congratulated by Colonel Chrisman. Both men served in World War I.

"The 576-hour course covered a total of 15 subjects vital to the operations of the Q.M. corps, with classes attended daily from 0530 to 2130."

Took Health Tests at Hunters Point

Chest X-ray examinations of civilian war workers at the Navy drydocks at Hunters Point, begun last October, were concluded the middle of December. It is announced that during the period a total of 3661 workers presented themselves voluntarily for examination. Practically all of these, it was stated, also took the blood tests given at the same time by the Division of Venereal Disease, Department of Public Health.

Those revealed by the X-ray films to have evidence of tuberculosis have been notified by the Department of Public Health, and advised to consult their family physicians or to have a more thorough examination for tuberculosis made at a municipal tuberculosis clinic. Those whose X-ray findings have indicated conditions other than tuberculosis have also been advised to consult their family physicians or to apply at one of the University clinics in San Francisco for a more complete check-up.

Have you made a blood donation to the Blood Bank?

PEOPLE'S DAIRY
An Independent Per Cent Union
100

Party Group Names Shelley

State Senator John F. Shelley, president of the San Francisco Labor Council, is one of the San Francisco representatives whose name has been filed with the Secretary of State as a member of a group delegation to the national Democratic convention at Chicago. The group will be voted upon at the coming May election.

Who Were They? All Union Girls!

If you were present at the Civic Auditorium to hear Henry Wallace, Vice-President of the United States, speak last Sunday evening, you were first met by the beautiful usherettes, who escorted you to a seat. Your first thought probably was, "Who are those beautiful girls and where did they come from?"

The girls are all members of Elevator Operators and Starters' Union No. 117, and graciously donated their time to thus aid in making the meeting for the Vice-President a success. They are employed in the following department stores and downtown office buildings: Furniture Mart, Emporium, Flood building, City of Paris, Phelan building, Sommer & Kauffmann, I. Magnin's, Mills building, O'Connor Moffatt, White House, 490 Post street, 333 Montgomery street, Humboldt Bank building, and 450 Mission street. An orchid to all the girls who did such a fine job!

Seeks Swanson's Assailants

Operating Engineers No. 3 has forwarded a communication to the San Francisco Labor Council re-citing the brutal attack on its business agent, Victor Swanson, on the evening of December 20. The communication again reminded of the offer of a reward for information leading to the conviction of the assailants, which reward, of \$10,000, had been announced immediately following the attack.

The new communication states that the acid thrown upon Mr. Swanson during the attack resulted in burning his eyes, head, chest and arms, and that while there is partial sight in one eye, there yet remains danger that this may be lost.

It is further stated that thus far no clues of value which would lead to capture of the assailants has come to light, and that the union is continuing to seek the help of everyone in apprehending the criminals.

Accompanying the communication was a card containing the reward announcement and bearing the office and home address of the union's officials in San Francisco, Oakland, San Rafael, Fresno, San Jose, Redding, Sacramento, Stockton, Eureka, Salt Lake City, Provo, Ogden and Reno and anyone having information to impart regarding identification of the guilty persons is asked to get in touch, day or night, with the union officials in any of these cities.

Buy Union Label Merchandise from Union Clerks.

Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

The *Lakeside Bulletin*, published for the employees of R. R. Donnelley & Sons by the organization committee of Chicago Printing Trades Unions, in its January issue contains an article, "Mailers By-Passed," reading as follows: "Mailing employees have been given the brush-off in the matter of 'merit' wage increases. Those who object to working twice as hard at Donnelley's, for half the pay they would receive in a union mailing department, continue their boasting for Mailers' Union No. 2. Various employees of 'D.E.' are working as extras in union shops on an 8-hour shift, for more than they get here for 12 hours. The low pay and the Horton influence make for rapid changes of 'personnel' in our department; but the union has vitality and enthusiasm behind it, and unionism is stronger than ever. The company has asked us: 'What are you going to do about it?' The company will get a surprising answer."

Information at hand indicates that, approximately, 1000 mailers have been suspended from the I.T.U. for failure to pay dues. The majority of that group is from Philadelphia. These suspended members belonged to the group known as the "block-voting" mailers at I.T.U. conventions and in I.T.U. elections, which will prove to be a big factor in the coming election, as they are now members of the so-called "International Mailers' Union." Among the suspended members are Walter J. Weissman, John R. Barrows, Samuel Wax, William A. Shea and W. C. Weaver, who are now officers of the "International Mailers' Union."

Open House, Seamen's Rest Center

Celebrating the first anniversary of the Merchant Marine Rest Center at Millbrae, San Mateo county, an open house will be held at the Center from 2 to 5 o'clock tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon, to which the public is invited. It will be recalled that the Center is the former Ogden D. Mills mansion, loaned by the heirs of the estate for establishing a rest home for seamen of the merchant marine service who have been injured, become ill or are suffering from the numerous other well known hazards of seafaring under wartime conditions. The invitation to the open house states that a train leaves the Third and Townsend station at 1:35, a bus leaves Seventh and Mission streets at 1:30, and cars will meet both the train and bus for transportation to the Center.

Buy U. S. War Bonds and Savings Stamps.

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S. F. Labor Council

Secretary's Office and Headquarters:
Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth Street (Room 214)
Headquarters Phone MArket 6304

The Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at the Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meets every Monday, at 8 p. m. The Organizing Committee meets every Friday, at 7:30 p. m. The Union Label Section meets the first Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p. m.

Synopsis of Meeting Held Friday, February 4, 1944.

Roll Call of Officers—All present.

Reading of Minutes—Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in the LABOR CLARION.

Credentials—Bakery and Confectionery Workers No. 24—Theodore Lindquist, Paul O. Guderley, Jack O. Cierley, Albert Panther, Candy and Glace Fruit Workers No. 158—David Dunham, Austin Tully, Mary Frank, Lumber Clerks No. 2559—Phil Mader vice William Hartig, Tool and Die Makers No. 1176—B. Homeberg, A. Hartman, Musicians No. 6—Joseph Mendel, Office Employees No. 21320—Leo Christiansen, Eleanor Murphy, Packers and Preserve Workers No. 20989—James Caras, Duane Strack, Web Pressmen No. 4—Daniel C. Murphy, J. Vernon Burke, J. Kelly.

Report of the Organizing Committee—(Meeting held February 4.) Called to order at 7 p. m. The following were examined and having been found to possess the proper qualifications, the committee recommended that they be seated as delegates to this Council: Chauffeurs No. 265—S. T. Dixon, Civil Service Janitors No. 66-A—Mrs. Edna Pellissier, United Garment Workers No. 131—Mayme Graham, Musicians No. 6—Elmer Hubbard, Letter Carriers No. 214—John C. Daly, Sr., Operating Engineers No. 64—Al Riddell, Printing Specialties and Paper Converters No. 362—Peter Riordan, Dorothy Kolak, Jack Maltester, Production and Aeronautical Lodge 1327—Jessie Anderson.

Communications—*Filed*: Telegram from John W. Elwood of the National Broadcasting Company, thanking the Labor Council War Bond Committee, in behalf of Eddie Cantor, for the outstanding job in supporting the Fourth War Loan drive. The following acknowledged the Council's letter of January 17 and resolution in re the soldier vote bill: U. S. Senator Downey, Congressmen Rolph and Welch, Don Olson, executive secretary, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc., thanking the Council for donations received from its affiliated organizations, California State Federation of Labor (C. J. Haggerty, secretary), calling our attention to the consolidation

of the state August and May primary elections, the date being set for May 16, 1944; this sets April 6, 1944, as the last date for the receipt of registrations; therefore, union members should be sure to register between now and April 6. C. E. Baen, chairman, Citizens Committee, East vs. West Football Game, Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children, inclosing financial statement. C. L. Kastendieck, business representative, Electrical Workers No. 1245, thanking the Council, Brother Conboy of Teamsters No. 35 and Brothers Dougherty and Walsh of Bartenders No. 41 for assistance in having the E. T. Mape Music Company sign their agreement. Dan V. Flanagan, Western Representative, A.F.L., acknowledging receipt of the Council's check for the campaign to unionize clerical employees in the Bay Area shipyards.

Bills were read and ordered paid, after being approved by the trustees.

Donations: To San Francisco War Chest: Brewery Checkers and Shipping Clerks No. 229, \$25.50; Retail Cigar and Liquor Clerks No. 1089, \$50; Cooks No. 44, one check for \$1423.56 and another for \$65; Bakery Wagon Drivers No. 484, \$440.67; Theatrical Employees B-18, \$50. To Red Cross: Bakery Wagon Drivers No. 484, \$220.33. To Infantile Paralysis, Inc. ("March of Dimes"): Bakery Wagon Drivers No. 484, \$50; Ice Wagon Drivers No. 519, \$25; Window Cleaners No. 44, \$10.

Referred to the LABOR CLARION: Communication from C. F. Mathews, secretary, Operating Engineers No. 3, asking all trade unionists not to forget the dastardly crime committed by two thugs who are still at large after criminally assaulting Victor Swanson, business manager of Local 3; there is a reward of \$10,000 for information leading to arrest and conviction of the individuals responsible for this attack. Anyone in possession of information leading to the arrest of those guilty please notify Engineers' Local 3 (Hemlock 1568).

Members of Committee to work with the Council regarding pending legislation: Operating Engineers No. 64, Al Riddell, John E. Holmes, Fred Fegan, Sign Painters No. 510, George W. Watson, James L. Seeley, Richard H. Wendell, Office Employees No. 21320, Al Bock, Leo Christiansen, Eleanor Murphy, Fred Miller (chairman). Waiters No. 30, George J. McDonald, Jay J. Miller, Nick Regan, H. Franklin. Waitresses No. 48, Hazel O'Brien, Frankie Behan, Elizabeth Kelly, Gussie Nottingham, Marguerite Finkenbinder.

Brother Joseph Casey reported progress in the organizing work of the Western Office of the American Federation of Labor among the clerical workers in San Francisco and its adjoining counties. He expressed his appreciation for the co-operation of certain of the delegates of the Bay Cities Metal Trades Council in this direction.

It was called to the attention of the delegates that

"We Don't Patronize" List

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to note this list carefully *from week to week*:

Adam Hat Stores, Inc., 119 Kearny.
Advance Pattern Company, 552 Mission.
American Distributing Company.
Austin Studio, 833 Market.
Avenue Hotel, 419 Golden Gate.
Becker Distributing Company.
Bruener, John, Company.
B & G Sandwich Shops.
California Watch Case Company.
Chan Quong, photo engraver, 680 Clay.
Curtis Publishing Co. (Philadelphia), publishers of *Saturday Evening Post*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Country Gentleman*.
Doran Hotels (include St. Regis, 85 Fourth St.; Mint, 141 Fifth St.; Hale, 939 Mission St.; Land, 936 Mission St.; Hillsdale, 51 Sixth St.; Grand Central, 1412 Market St., and the Ford Apartments, 957 Mission St.).
Drake Cleaners and Dyers.
Forderer Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.
Gantner & Mattem, 1453 Mission.
Gates Rubber Company, 2700 Sixteenth Street.
General Distillers, Ltd., 136 Front St.
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of overalls and working men's clothing.
Lucerne Apartments, 766 Sutter.
M. R. C. Roller Bearing Company, 550 Polk.
National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.
Navalet Seed Company, 423 Market.
O'Keefe-Merritt Stove Co., Products, Los Angeles.
Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.
Purity Springs Water Company, 2050 Kearny.
Remington-Rand, Inc., 509 Market.

Romaine Photo Studio, 220 Jones.
Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.
Sealey Mattress Company, 6699 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland.

Sherwin-William Paint Company.
Sloane, W. & J.
Smith, L. C., Typewriter Company, 545 Market.
Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.
Standard Oil Company.
Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.
Sutro Baths and Skating Rink.
Swift & Co.

Time and Life (magazines), products of the unfair Donnelley firm (Chicago).

Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.
Val Vita Food Products, Inc., Fullerton, Calif.
Woolridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.

All non-union independent taxicabs.

Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.

Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of the Hairdressers and Cosmetologists' Department of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America are unfair.

Cleaning establishments that do not display the shop card of Retail Cleaners' Union No. 93 are unfair.

Locksmith Shops which do not display the union shop card of Federated Locksmiths No. 1331 are unfair.

John Byrnes, formerly delegate from Production and Aeronautical Lodge No. 1327, was present in the Council meeting and enjoying a furlough from his "Seabee" "boot camp."

Brother Ballerini verbally tendered his resignation from the organizing committee and was asked to submit a written resignation.

Reports of Unions—Delegate Hubbard of Musicians No. 6—Reported on the potentialities for the labor movement in the Fourth War Loan drive and movements regarding participation in the purchase of War Bonds, and also the contribution to the war effort in general. Newspaper Vendors No. 468—Reported that during the month of January voluntary contributions from the members to the War Chest will exceed a total of \$700. Production and Aeronautical Lodge 1327—Filed a complaint against the War Labor Board and its method of handling cases of their organization. United Garment Cutters No. 45—Reported that Andy Ahern had this week received an appointment from his international union to represent ten states in the western area in that industry. Barbers No. 148—Reported that those cases they have had before the W.L.B. have been adjusted to their satisfaction and gratification. Elevator Operators No. 117—Reported that they, as a "non-essential" industry, have received co-operation from the W.L.B. and are grateful for the results.

Installation of Officers—Brother Joseph Casey installed the following officers of the Council who had been elected for the ensuing year: **President** John F. Shelley. **Vice-President**, Daniel P. Haggerty. **Secretary-Treasurer**, John A. O'Connell. **Sergeant-at-Arms**, George Kelly. **Trustees**, Jack Andersen, John Coughlan, William Walsh. **Executive Committee**, Andy Ahern, Anthony Costa, Marguerite Finkenbinder, Frank Fitzgerald, D. P. Haggerty, G. W. Johns, G. Kelly, C. T. McDonough, Edward McLaughlin, Hazel O'Brien, W. J. Phillips, Thomas A. Rotell, Larry Vail. **Law and Legislative Committee**, Art Dougherty, Arthur Hare, George Hayward, Clarence King, Harry Ritchie, Jack Spalding, Clarence Walsh. **Organizing Committee**, Charles Bruno, Minnette Fitzgerald, Sylvio Giannini, Harold Lopez, Joseph Piccini, Harry Ritchie, Thomas A. Rotell, Thomas White. **Directors of Hall Association**, Art Dougherty, D. P. Haggerty, John F. Shelley, **Directors of LABOR CLARION**, Henry S. Foley, John A. O'Connell, Walter Otto, Edward Sullivan, Fred Wetstein.

New Business—Motion made that we call a meeting of the representatives of the various unions to discuss their problems with the W.L.B. and their criticisms and comments on policy, procedure, delays, etc., and that we agree upon a list of test cases and then appoint an A.F.L. committee to discuss those questions with the W.L.B.; carried.

Receipts, \$3479.14; **disbursements**, \$365.51.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p. m.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

Members of Health Committee

At the Health Conference, which met in the Civic Auditorium the middle of last month, appointment was made of an inter-union continuation committee along with a medical advisory committee. Members of A.F.L. unions for the first-named group are: Daniel Del Carlo of the Building Trades Council, Joseph P. Bailey, Allied Printing Trades Council; George Hayward, Dry Dock, Marine Waysmen and Stage Riggers; Luther Morris, Steamfitters No. 590; Arthur Hare, Hospital and Institutional Workers; and Frank Randall, Office Workers.

RESTAURANT PAY INCREASED

Wage increases have been approved by the Regional War Labor Board for restaurant and cafeteria workers employed in the Gimbel, Snellenburg and Lit Brothers department stores in Philadelphia. The employees were represented by locals of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance.

GOOD FOOD

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Farmers' Union Warning Against Price Increases

Warning that "we have some inflation now," the National Farmers' Union declared that "if we can stop rising values now, little damage will be done." "If they continue to go up," it added, "great damage will be done. Costs have risen 26 per cent since 1939, when World War II started. At the same period in World War I, costs had risen 55 per cent."

The position of the Farmers' Union was made known in a pamphlet, "The Truth About Subsidies," which is being distributed to farmers and trade unionists. The pamphlet was written by Russell Smith, legislative secretary of the farm group, and was designed by Chandler Montgomery and George T. Guernsey. James G. Patton is president of the Farmers' Union.

Masses Against Inflation

The American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Grange and other reactionary farm organizations have declared their opposition to the program to control prices by subsidies. Organized labor favors continuance of the subsidy program.

Describing the inflation fight which, it pointed out, is "now at its peak," the Farmers' Union said:

"On the one side are the representatives of sidewalk farmers, factory farmers, processors, middlemen, and much of big business. They have no alternative to offer to inflation; it is what they want. On the other side are the average ordinary citizens, mostly without means to express themselves publicly. They are made up of family farmers, workers, and middle-of-the-road consumers.

Subsidy Program Urged

"What they want and what the National Farmers' Union wants for them is a program of stability that will not only hold the line but that will add to war production by making it possible for every citizen to play his part in victory."

"For the immediate future," the farm group said, "this program includes the use of a careful, wisely administered price support-subsidy program. The \$800,000,000 program currently in force should be regarded as a minimum program, to be expanded where necessary. Its costs will be only a fraction of the cost to the nation that would follow the breaking of ceilings, the pressure of labor for higher wages, and the cost increases that would be levied by business."

Toward Fuller Democracy

"Such a price support program is a step toward fuller democracy in the conduct of the war, and toward fuller democracy when peace comes. The country cannot afford inflation, and the price support program is the best immediate guarantee against it."

Setting forth that the "truth about the position of farmers, workers and business is that business has gained more than any other group during the war," the Farmers' Union said: "The net income of farm operators is 2.84 times what it was in 1939, wages and salaries are 2.09 times what they were then. But corporation income is 4.36 times what it was in 1939. These increases are before taxes."

WHEELER, ON FOREIGN POLICY

Senator Wheeler of Montana, often an opponent of the Roosevelt administration's foreign policy, has expressed willingness to join in efforts to find a common ground for settlement of basic differences on foreign policy in Congress. "I am willing to join with any group interested in trying to work out a sane, sensible policy to maintain world peace and yet protect the post-war interests of the American people," Wheeler told a reporter.

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The dollars we put into War Bonds at home will help buy the equipment to give our men the weight in arms to shorten the bloody battle ahead. And when you and I Back the Attack by buying War Bonds and more Bonds we add to our own nest-egg for buying necessities when the war is won.

Now is War Bond buying time. It is the closing period of the 4th War Loan. No matter how many War Bonds you have already bought—buy an EXTRA War Bond today.

United States War Savings Bonds, Series E: gives you back \$4 for every \$3 when the bonds mature. Interest: 2.9% a year, compounded semi-annually, if held to maturity. Denominations: \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000. Redemption: any time 60 days after issue date. Price 75% maturity value.

2½ Treasury Bonds of 1965-1970: readily marketable, acceptable as bank collateral, redeemable at par and accrued interest for the purpose of satisfying Federal estate taxes. Dated February 1, 1944. Denominations: \$500, \$1000, \$5000, \$10,000, \$100,000, \$1,000,000. Price: par and accrued interest.

Other Securities: Series "C" Savings Notes; 7% Certificates of Indebtedness; 2½ Treasury Bonds of 1956-1959; United States Savings Bonds Series "F"; United States Savings Bonds Series "G".

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Speakers Assail Labor Draft As Step to Totalitarianism

National service legislation was vigorously attacked by Representative Dewey Short of Missouri, speaking on Theodore Granik's American Forum of the Air.

Short condemned the proposal as a "remedy worse than the disease," and declared that it represents "the last step toward a totalitarian government." "Personally, I do not want to raise up a Hitler here to get rid of one abroad, and if the plan proposed by the President were enacted into law it would reduce our farmers, laborers and all other citizens of our country to a state of serfdom," he said.

Robert J. Watt, international representative of the American Federation of Labor, sided with Representative Short, telling why organized labor is opposed to the President's proposal.

Drive Against Poll-Tax Laws

Plans for a drive against the anti-labor poll tax law in force in Southern States were set in motion when a dozen or more residents of the Fillmore and Twenty-second Assembly District neighborhood met recently and formed the Community Anti-Poll Tax Committee. Those present decided that a larger and more representative meeting should be called before setting up a permanent organization. Mrs. Juanita Brinson was named temporary secretary-treasurer.

It was announced that copies of a "Petition for Democracy" will be circulated by committee members and volunteer workers. The petition asks the U. S. Senators from California to call for an immediate vote on the poll-tax repeal bill, to vote against amendments to the bill, and to demand limitation of debate in order to forestall a filibuster threatened by opponents in the Senate.

Sponsors of the petition include Assemblyman George D. Collins Jr. of the Twenty-second Assembly District. It was further stated the committee voted to meet on call to set up a permanent organization.

Sends Funds to Aid Bolivians

The Labor League for Human Rights, relief arm of the American Federation of Labor, has telegraphed to Bernardo Ibanez, head of the Chilean Federation of Labor, \$2500 for relief of the families of the 400 tin miners shot by Bolivian government troops during a strike.

The Catavi massacre in December, 1942, occurred during a demonstration by about 8000 miners and their families. As a result of this, a series of parliamentary debates and other protests led to the fall of the Bolivian cabinet in August, 1943. The Government's intervention in this strike is also believed to have played a vital part in the more recent Bolivian uprising.

NATURAL CONCLUSION

Writing to a school friend now in Canada, a 12-year-old English boy concluded his letter as follows: "Most people think we shall win the war, because Germany is a fatherland and England is a motherland. When mother and father fight, mother always wins."

Fourth War Loan Drive—Buy an EXTRA \$100 Bond!



Electrical Workers' Locals Merge

Announcement is made that two local unions of Electrical Workers have been merged, the two organizations forming the new local being B-202 and B-1245. The main office will be at the existing headquarters of Local B-1245, in the Central Tower (phone EXbrook 8086). A temporary office will, however, be maintained at 229 Valencia street. B-1245 will be the official number of the merged locals.

AFTER-THE-WAR MOTOR CARS

The only difference between the motor car to be turned out immediately after the war and those available before Pearl Harbor will be the price, which will be higher, according to Charles L. McCuen, vice-president and engineering chief of General Motors. He declared that ultra-streamlined cars which have been pictured in the magazines and the \$400 model predicted by Shipbuilder Henry J. Kaiser are "dream stuff." General Motors will be able to convert to auto production in one hour when the war ends, McCuen said.

Wage-Hour Administrator Walling declares three-fourths of 60,000 firms inspected last year are violating wage law.

Recommend Abandonment Of "Little Steel" Formula

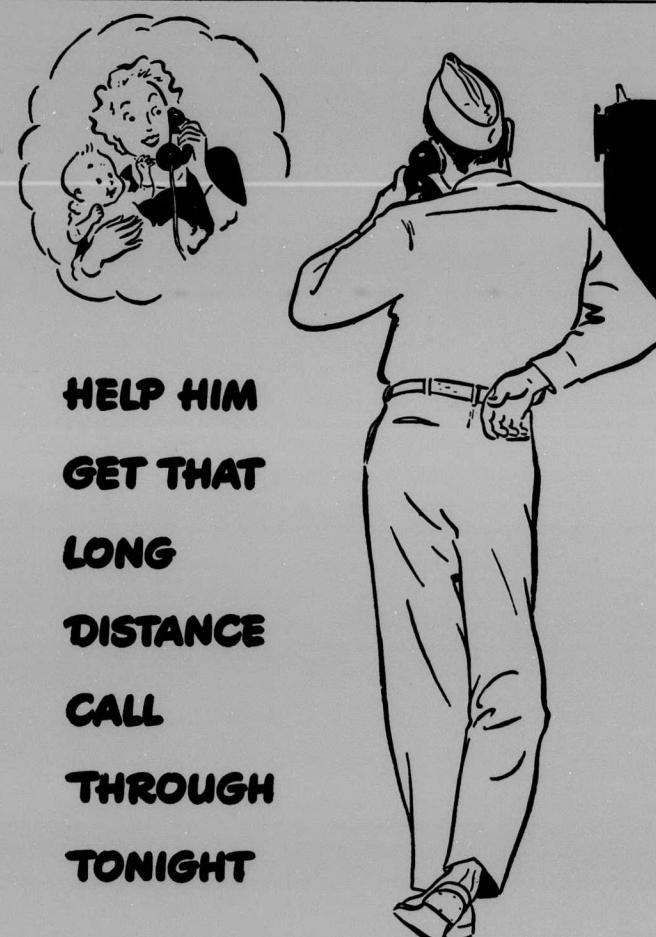
A press dispatch from Washington last Wednesday stated that American Federation of Labor members of the War Labor Board had recommended abandonment of the Little Steel wage formula. No further details on the proposal were given in the dispatch as printed in early editions of the local papers.

Street Carmen Rescind Strike Vote

Employees of the Market Street Railway have voted unanimously to rescind a previous vote authorizing a strike, John M. Rosser, secretary of Carmen's Union, Division 1004, announced this week.

Rosser said the action was taken to "remove the threat of a strike" from the record of the War Labor Board, now considering wage increase demands. A W.L.B. panel, he said, recommended to the W.L.B. increases 10 cents per hour less than the union demand.

The Anaconda Copper Company was fined, in Providence, R. I., \$10,000 for war frauds. Defective wire.



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